

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

11/5/03

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 744 (Birkholz)

Senate Bill 744 would create a teaching award grant program to recognize outstanding environmental teachers. The program would use the existing funding in the Environmental Education Fund which is made up of twenty-five percent of the civil fines collected annually and capped at \$150,000 in any fiscal year.

• SB 744 passed [RC 525: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 4753 (Shackleton)

House Bill 4753 revises the age requirement for school crossing guards from 18 years old to 17 years old. There is a shortage of crossing guards in many areas of the state. This legislation will give municipalities the ability to use their own judgment as to the appropriate age and maturity when they hire school crossing guards.

Support: Michigan Education Association.

• HB 4753 passed with IE [RC 524: 36 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 637 (George)

This bill would amend current law with respect to underage drinking to prohibit a minor from having "any bodily alcohol content" as well as allow for imprisonment for repeat offenders. (Up to 30 days in jail for second offense and up to 90 days in jail for third offense).

Support: The District Judges Association and the Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan (PAAM).

Oppose: MI Beverages Association.

• SB 637 was passed for the day. No other action was taken on the bill.

SB 700 (Birkholz)

The bill would require the City of Detroit to collect real and personal property taxes levied after December 31, 2003, by all taxing jurisdictions authorized to levy property tax in the city; and require the city treasurer to return all uncollected delinquent real property taxes to the Wayne County treasurer for collection.

Support: City of Detroit.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 700 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 787 (Hardiman)

Senate Bill 787 would exempt schools with lost MEAP tests from accreditation. During the last round of MEAP tests, a number of tests were lost during transition from the schools to the contractors responsible for scoring the tests. This bill would provide that if 25% of a school's answer sheets for a particular subject area are lost, the department would not assign an accreditation score or school report card for that subject area. If less than 25% of the answer sheets for a subject area were lost, the department would not include the pupils whose tests were lost in calculating the accreditation score or school report card.

- Committee 1 (S-3) was defeated [no RC].
- Kuipers 2 (S-5) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 787 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4263 (Taub)

House Bill 4263 would put urban townships and villages on equal footing with cities for purposes of establishing a principal shopping district or a business improvement district. The bill is restricted to urban townships within three counties which excludes many local units that could benefit from being able to participate. The bill has been introduced at the request of the Orchard Lake Corridor Study Group which consists of six communities in south central Oakland County that want to collaborate to establish business improvement districts along the I-696 corridor.

Support: Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Townships Association, Orchard Lake Road Corridor Study Group.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4263 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4283 (Pappageorge) HB 4660 (Garfield)

<u>House Bill 4283</u> would provide 90 days of telephone shut-off protection for families whose household income is reduced due to a call to active military service. The telephone company may require the customer to restrict or eliminate some features and toll services. The company may also grant extensions.

Support: SBC, Telecommunications Association of Michigan, Verizon

• HB 4283 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

<u>House Bill 4660</u> would provide 90 days of gas and electric shut-off protection for families whose household income is reduced due to a call to active military service. The utility may also grant extensions.

The utility would have to create a repayment plan that allows the customer to repay the past due amounts over a time period up to one year.

Support: Consumers Energy, DTE Energy, SEMCO Energy, Michigan Electric & Gas Association.

• HB 4660 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4518 (GIELEGHEM)

Support: The Food & Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network, Pinckney Community Schools, Food Anaphylaxis Education, MI Assn. of Ambulance Services, MHA, MI EMT Assn., CIS, MSMS.

- Committee 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. Technical amendment.
- HB 4518 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4613 (HOPGOOD)

Current law allows World War II veterans who did not complete high school because they were drafted or enlisted to receive high school diplomas. House Bill 4613 extends that ability to veterans of the Korean Conflict who entered the service during the period from June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955.

• HB 4613 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4695 (TOBOCMAN) HB 4698 (Bisbee) HB 4699 (DeRoche)

House Bills 4695-98 would make technical corrections regarding references to the Credit Union Act.

Support: Michigan Credit Union League.

- HB 4695 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 4698 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 4699 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4938 (Taub)

The bill would repeal existing statutes that regulate notary publics, including 1) require a person to apply to the Secretary of State (rather than a county clerk) for appointment as a notary public; 2) prescribe \$10 application fee, a \$10 oath and bond fee filing fee, and a \$10 fee for a duplicate certificate of appointment. The fee increases would generate approximately \$238,000 in additional State revenue and \$250,000 for local units of government. The amount of revenue in future years would decline due to the extended term of appointment under the bill.

Support: Secretary of State, MI Assn. of County Clerks.

• Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].

- Toy 1A (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. This corrected a drafting error.
- HB 4938 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4950 (Ward)

House Bill 4950 will allow a township board to, when appointing a township superintendent, designate that person either a township superintendent or township manager.

Support: MI Township Association.

• HB 4950 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 5054 (Ward)

House Bill 5054 will allow barber services to be rendered outside of a barbershop to a person in the person's home if it is impractical or unsafe for the person to travel due to frailty, age, injury, or illness.

Support: Department of Consumer and Industry Services Supports, Michigan Protection and Advocacy Services, Elder Law of Michigan.

• HB 5054 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 5156 (McCONICO)

House Bill 5156 permits local governments in a financial emergency, subject to an emergency financial manager, to issue bonds in amounts greater than the limitations established by the city charter.

Support: City of Highland Park (residents in the city voted to sell assets in order to pay off the bonds.) The amount of debt burdens some cities exceed the amount of bonding they can do by current law. Essentially, this provides one of the tools necessary for some municipalities to recover.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5156 was moved to 3rd Reading.

RESOLUTIONS

SR 140 (Brown)

A resolution to encourage research in Michigan on the thermal depolymerization process.

• SR 140 was adopted [no RC].